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Draft strategy for the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Note by the Secretariat

In accordance with decision 2004/1 of the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory meeting for the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (see A/CONF.207/3, chap. IV), the Facilitator for the draft strategy for the further implementation of the Programme of Action held further consultations from 14 to 16 April and 7 to 11 October 2004. The outcome of those informal consultations is transmitted to the International Meeting for further deliberations.

Draft strategy for the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

1. The Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Development States remains the blueprint for small island developing States and the international community to address national and regional sustainable development in small island developing States that takes into account the economic, social and environmental aspects that are the pillars of the holistic and integrated approach to sustainable development. The Programme of Action sets out basic principles as well as specific actions that are required at the national, regional and international levels to support sustainable development in small island developing States. Along with the Programme of Action, the Rio Principles, the full implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, **[the internationally agreed development goals, including those in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, — EU delete]** and the outcomes of other relevant major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Monterrey Consensus, all

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contribute to **[the framework for — EU delete]** the sustainable development of small island developing States. **[The internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, provide the overarching framework for global poverty eradication and development support — EU add]** To be effective, this framework needs to be fully reflected in national development plans and strategies **[, including national sustainable development strategies and poverty reduction strategies where they exist, — G77 delete]** and to be a key underpinning of donor and United Nations system support for small island developing States.

[1 ter. The review of the Programme of Action has provided small island developing States with a valuable opportunity to measure progress in implementing its objectives. National assessment reports have been prepared, which in turn have informed the preparation of regional synthesis reports. These documents, together with the Programme of Action, form the basis of the present strategy document and should be read along with the present document in order to fully appreciate the work needed to ensure further progress. The priorities identified by small island developing States during their preparatory process include:

- Strengthening their national enabling environments, including through implementing national sustainable development strategies, poverty reduction strategy papers and regional cooperation. Innovative solutions and support to build small island developing States capacity remain of crucial importance.
- Improving governance in all its aspects, including security (which must be addressed from economic, social and environmental standpoints).
- Securing, and effectively using, adequate resources to finance their sustainable development, including through attracting new partnerships and investment as well as expanding exports the removal of trade barriers. Donor support to small island developing States needs to be better harmonized to reduce the transaction costs and capacity burden for small States.
- Urgently intensifying action to combat HIV/AIDS and other communicable and non-communicable diseases in island countries.
- Intensified global action to address climate change and sea-level rise, to which small island developing States are particularly vulnerable.

– EU addition, will be considered for deletion pending outcome of sect. XX on implementation]

2. Small island developing States acknowledge that sustainable development is primarily a national responsibility, but also that for small island developing States to succeed, given their acknowledged vulnerabilities, **[the Rio Principles, [including]/[in particular — G77], inter alia, [principle 6 and — G77 add] the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as set out in principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development — Chair]** must be given specific expression for small island developing States. Furthermore, there is a need for strengthened cooperation and partnership in support of sustainable development of small island developing States at the national, regional and international levels. Such partnership should be broad-based and ensure the involvement and participation of relevant stakeholders.

3. Small island developing States have demonstrated their commitment to sustainable development **[by bearing the brunt of the cost of implementing]/[through their efforts to implement — United States]** the Programme of Action while at the same time **[meeting their]/[facing — United States]** increasing obligations under international agreements. **[While the international community has provided financing and technical assistance in sectors that were fairly new in 1994 (climate change, persistent organic pollutants) overall official development assistance (ODA) to small island developing States has [significantly — G77] declined [by over 50 per cent] between 1994 and 2004. — United States delete]/[add neutral reference from the report of the Secretary-General on small island developing States]** Furthermore, an analysis of the reports shows an increase in ad hoc stand-alone projects, rather than a programmed or strategic approach. It is crucial to mobilize domestic resources, attract international flows, promote international trade as an engine for development, increase international financial and technical cooperation for development, make debt-financing sustainable and provide external debt relief, and enhance the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems.

4. The review of the Programme of Action has provided small island developing States with a valuable opportunity to measure progress in implementing its objectives. National assessment reports have been prepared, which in turn have informed the preparation of regional synthesis reports. These documents, together with the Programme of Action, form the basis of the review of the Programme of Action and should be read along with the present document in order to fully appreciate the work needed to ensure further progress. [agreed]

5. Small island developing States are committed to promoting sustainable development, eradicating poverty and improving the livelihoods of their peoples by the implementation of strategies which build resilience and capacity to address their unique and particular vulnerabilities. This can be facilitated by international cooperation, including through further efforts by multilateral partners, which is more responsive to the particular needs of small island developing States. [agreed]

[6. [In order to complement national **[and regional — Canada add]** development efforts — EU add]/[For small island developing States — G77]/**[In order to complement national and regional development efforts for small island developing States, — Chair]** [T]/[t]here is an urgent need to enhance coherence, governance and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems[, and — G77 delete, or: [with a view to enabling]/**[which would assist — Chair]**/[which will enable the — G77] [the effective — G77 delete] participation of small island developing States in international financial decision-making processes and institutions, and in the process of setting international rules, codes, norms and standards. — Chair]

7. Good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development. At the domestic level, sound environmental, social and economic policies, democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people, the rule of law, anti-corruption measures, gender equality and an enabling environment for investment are the basis for sustainable development. As a result of globalization, external factors have become critical in determining the success or failure of developing countries in their national efforts. The gap between developed

and developing countries points to the continued need for a dynamic and enabling international economic environment supportive of international cooperation, particularly in the areas of finance, technology transfer, debt and trade and full and effective participation of developing countries in global decision-making, if the momentum for global progress towards sustainable development is to be maintained and increased. [agreed]

7 bis. Peace, security, stability and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, as well as respect for cultural diversity, are essential for achieving sustainable development and ensuring that sustainable development benefits all. [agreed]

8. Security for small island developing States is a multidimensional concept. Specific challenges to small island developing States include, inter alia, environmental degradation, natural disasters, food security, water scarcity, HIV/AIDS, narco-trafficking, small arms trafficking and the impact of terrorism on the economic sectors and tourism in particular. Implementation of the sustainable development agenda for small island developing States must proceed notwithstanding the current emphasis on security. In this regard, the international community acknowledges the increased financial and administrative obligation at the national level that this places on all small island developing States as part of the global fight against terrorism and reaffirms the importance of international cooperation and technical and financial support to small island developing States where necessary. [agreed]

9. South-South, including small island developing States-small island developing States cooperation is critical at the bilateral, subregional and regional levels in strategic areas, such as information and communication technology, trade, investment, capacity-building, disaster management, environment, food, agriculture, oceans, water, energy, health and education. [agreed]

[10. There is a need to avoid any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impedes the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries, in particular women and children, that hinders their well-being or that creates obstacles to the full enjoyment of their human rights, including the right of everyone to a standard of living adequate for their health and well-being and their right to food, medical care and the necessary social services. — **United States delete**]

11. [*Moved to sect. XX on implementation — it was agreed to delete paragraph from this section as a result*]

12. Experience has reaffirmed that sustainable development is best achieved through adoption of integrated and holistic approaches at all levels. [agreed]

13. Small island developing States recognize the importance of culture in their sustainable development, as it represents the expression and identity of the people and the foundation of the richness of our cultural diversity, traditions and customs. [agreed]

14. Small island developing States recognize the integral role of youth in sustainable development and express the need to further ensure their participation in

programmes and activities related to sustainable development on small island developing States. [agreed]

15. Small island developing States reaffirm the importance of gender equality and promoting the full and equal access of women and men to political participation at all levels, economic opportunity, health-care services and programmes and decision-making systems for sustainable development, and the full and equal access of girls and boys, women and men to all levels of education. [agreed]

I. Climate change and sea-level rise

16. The adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise continue to threaten the sustainable development, livelihoods and existence of small island developing States. **[Greenhouse gas concentrations must be stabilized as a matter of urgency. The lower the level of eventual stabilization, the less will be the likely damage to the global climate. However, even if greenhouse gas emissions were curbed immediately, the global average temperature would still continue to rise due to the slow response of the Earth's atmospheric system to past emissions. — EU add]** The failure **[of [most]/[many — EU] [industrialized — Norway delete] countries — Russian Federation]** to reduce **[domestic — Russian Federation delete] [global — EU, Norway]** greenhouse gas emissions means that the vulnerability of small island developing States will be increased and that adaptation to climate change continues to be a major priority for small island developing States. To this end, the international community **[must]/[should]**:

(a) Fully implement the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change **[and further promote international cooperation on the climate change issue — Russian Federation add]**;

(b) [Ensure the immediate ratification and entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol — Russian Federation delete];

(c) Take further urgent action to reduce **[domestic — Russian Federation, delete]** greenhouse gas emissions, including through the **[development and increased use of renewable energy — Russian Federation delete] [including through the combination, as appropriate, of the increased use of renewable energy technologies, including advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy resources — Russian Federation add]**;

(d) Support small island developing States in the development and implementation of national climate change action plans **[which should be integrated into national strategies for sustainable development and poverty reduction strategy papers — EU add]**;

(e) Remove barriers to the transfer to small island developing States of appropriate technology related to small island developing States.

[16 alt. **The adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise continue to threaten the sustainable development, livelihoods and existence of small island developing States. The failure to reduce greenhouse gas emissions increases the vulnerability of small island developing States and adaptation to climate change continues to be a major priority.**]

[16 bis. All States commit to taking further action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including through the development and increased use of renewable energy. States identified in annex B of the Kyoto Protocol commit to meeting their identified greenhouse gas targets.]

[16 ter. Small island developing States, supported by the international community, agree to further develop and implement national climate change action plans, and identify and remove barriers to the transfer to small island developing States of appropriate technology related to small island developing States. — Australia]

[16 alt., version 2. **The projected adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise have the potential to threaten the sustainable development, livelihoods and, in some cases, the existence of small island developing States. Increasing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases may lead to increased vulnerability for small island developing States. Adaptation to climate change continues to be a major priority for small island developing States. To this end, small island developing States and the international community should:**

(a) Continue to address domestic greenhouse gas emissions, including through the development and diffusion of new technologies;

(b) Continue to support small island developing States in the development and implementation of national climate change action plans. — United States]

17. Financial and technical support **[must]/[should — United States]** be provided, particularly through the Global Environment Facility (GEF), for the adoption of better adaptation strategies and action, **[including — Canada]** not only for technical studies **[but also for the actual implementation of those plans — Canada delete]. [GEF [must]/[should] apply their rules of access and simplify their disbursement procedures so as to take into account the special circumstances of small island developing States. — Russian Federation delete]/ [The effectiveness of the GEF machinery in its interactions with small island developing States, especially with regard to the disbursement procedures, has to be further enhanced. — Russian Federation alternative]**

[17 alt. **Bilateral and multilateral financial and technical support should be provided, including through GEF, for the adoption of better adaptation strategies and action, not only for technical studies but also for the actual implementation of those plans. GEF is invited to consider ways of improving the effectiveness and efficiency of its disbursement procedures — EU]**

[17 alt., version 2. **[Financial and technical support should be provided, particularly through GEF, for the adoption of better adaptation strategies and action, not only for technical studies but also for the actual implementation of those plans.] [GEF is strongly encouraged to further enhance the effectiveness of [its]/[the GEF] machinery [including the implementing agencies — EU] in its interactions with small island developing States, especially with regard to simplification of the rules of access and [disbursement] procedures, so as to take into account the special circumstances of small island developing States.]/ [In this regard, GEF funds should continue to be accessible, and GEF is encouraged to continue to simplify disbursement procedures. — United States] — G77]**

[17 alt./17 bis: **Financial and technical support through the international community can assist small island developing States in the adoption of better adaptation strategies and action, not only for technical studies but also for the actual implementation of those plans. In this regard, GEF funds should continue to be accessible and GEF is encouraged to continue to simplify disbursement procedures. United States, G77 prefers as 17 bis**]

18. Small island developing States, with assistance from regional development banks and other financial institutions, as appropriate, should coordinate further, on a regional basis, to establish or strengthen national and regional climate-change coordination mechanisms. [agreed]

II. Natural and environmental disasters

19. Small island developing States are located among the most vulnerable regions in the world in relation to the intensity and frequency of natural and environmental disasters and their increasing impact, and face disproportionately high economic, social and environmental consequences. Small island developing States have undertaken to strengthen their respective national frameworks for more effective disaster management and are committed, with the necessary support of the international community to:

(a) Strengthen the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and related small island developing States regional mechanisms as facilities to improve national disaster mitigation, preparedness and early-warning capacity, increase public awareness about disaster reductions, stimulate interdisciplinary and intersectoral partnerships, and the mainstreaming of risk management into the national planning process;

(b) Use such opportunities as the 10-year review of the Yokohama Strategy on Natural Disaster Reduction, including the programme outcome for 2005-2015 of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, to be held in Kobe, Japan, in January 2005, to consider the specific concerns of small island developing States, including issues relating to insurance and reinsurance arrangements for small island developing States. [agreed]

[*Note: old paragraph 19 (c) will be reintroduced under capacity-building*]

III. Management of wastes

20. While some small island developing States have made significant progress in both planning and implementation of waste management policies, programmes and strategies, most of them have serious difficulties in terms of financial and technical capacity in dealing with waste management issues. [**There is a [growing — Japan delete]** concern with the security and environmental implications of the disposal and transport of radioactive materials **[and the lack of adequate liability and compensation regimes. — EU delete] — United States delete]/[and recognition of the importance of having effective liability mechanisms in place — Chair (delegations are referred to International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) resolution GC(48)/RES/10 of 24 September 2004)]/[note that 1999 review document text could be considered — G77]** Marine debris, ballast water,

[shipwrecks — Japan delete] and other forms of waste threaten the ecological integrity of small island developing States. **[The following actions are therefore required — G77]/[small island developing States are committed, with the support of the international community, including through technology transfer, to: — EU alternative]/[Further action is required by small island developing States, with the necessary support of the international community to — Chair]**:

(a) [The international community must provide financial support **[by 2015 — Japan delete]** for the development, transfer and implementation of appropriate technologies that can be adapted by small island developing States. — EU delete]/**[small island developing States should form regional partnerships to draw on best practices and develop innovative solutions to waste management, seeking international assistance in this effort. — United States alternative — could also be moved to implementation chapter]**[**G77 will consider whether this needs to be retained or not in light of the implementation chapter]**;

(b) **[Work to strengthen — EU add]** The control of the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes **[[must]/[should] be strengthened, — EU delete]** especially through the enhancement of activities under the Basel Convention and, where it applies, the Waigani Convention. [This must include the principles of prior informed agreement, liability and compensation, the emergency fund and support for the **[Basel Convention — EU add, G77 to check]** regional centres. — **United States delete]**;

(c) Promote sustainable waste management, including:

(i) Identifying cost-effective and environmentally sound waste management systems;

(ii) Exploring and engaging in innovative [forms of — Japan] financing of waste management infrastructure**], including the creation of appropriate national environmental trust funds — G77]**;

(iii) Promoting reduction, reuse, recycling of waste and waste management initiatives;

(iv) Developing projects appropriate to small island developing States for the use of waste as a resource, including for the production of energy as a waste management solution.

(d) Promote national, regional and international cooperation to reduce the quantity of waste disposed of at sea, including by working with others in the international community to strengthen regimes relating to the disposal of waste at sea, particularly those regimes established by the International Maritime Organization, the London (Dumping) Convention and the International Atomic Energy Agency. [agreed]

(e) Promote the broad participation in **[and early implementation of — Russian Federation to follow-up]** the new International Maritime Organization (IMO) Convention on Ballast Water;

(f) **[Work with — EU alternative start]**[Those nations whose naval vessels were sunk in small island developing States territories during the Second World War **[must]/[to — EU alternative]/[should cooperate with the small island developing States to — G77]**:

(i) [Act to ensure — United States delete] these vessels do not become a source of pollution;

(ii) Accept liability for rehabilitation in the event that pollution occurs.]/ **[small island developing States in the Pacific region should address the issue of potential oil leaks from Second World War sunken vessels bilaterally with the owners of such vessels, pursuant to the agreement reached at the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme official and ministerial meetings in 2003. — United States alternative] — Japan delete whole paragraph];**

(g) Small island developing States and the international development partners should fully implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, particularly with the support of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), by undertaking initiatives specifically addressing the vulnerability of small island developing States;

[(h) The transportation of radioactive materials in and through the small island developing States regions must cease. Ongoing dialogue, including through IMO, with the shipping States should be urgently strengthened towards that end. — **United States delete]/[Under the aegis of IAEA, maintain dialogue and consultation aimed at improving mutual understanding, confidence-building and enhanced communications in relation to safe maritime transport of radioactive materials. — EU alternative]/[The very serious ecological economic and security risks posed by the transport of radioactive materials and hazardous waste by sea remains a matter of the gravest concern to small island developing States. In this regard, those States involved in the transport of such materials are urged to continue to engage in dialogue with small island developing States to further develop, comply with and strengthen international legal regimes to enhance safety, disclosure, liability, security and compensation in relation to such transports. In undertaking these actions, shipping States should have due regard for the special concerns of small island developing States. The Secretary-General is requested to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on efforts and measures undertaken in this regard. — G77]**.

IV. Coastal and marine resources

21. Small island developing States are defined by their historic, cultural and economic links to the oceans and seas. They continue to be heavily dependent on their marine resources, particularly for the sustainable livelihoods of coastal communities. The management of coastal and marine resources have become integrated into broader ocean management strategies since the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. However, for those small island developing States which are States parties to the Convention implementation continues to be impeded by financial constraints and a lack of capacity. [agreed]

22. To overcome these constraints, it is important to give appropriate priority at all levels, including in national and regional sustainable development agendas, to ocean issues including fisheries. Further action is required by small island developing States, with the necessary support of the international community, to enable small island developing States to, among other things:

(a) Complete the delimitation of their maritime boundaries;

(b) Submit any claims to the Continental Shelf Commission by 13 May 2009 or such later date as applicable in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the Law of the Sea;

(c) Further the work on the assessment of seabed living and non-living resources within their national jurisdiction. [agreed]

23. Further action is required by small island developing States, with the necessary support of the international community, to build technical and financial capacities to:

(a) Establish effective monitoring, reporting and enforcement, and control of fishing vessels, including by small island developing States as flag States, to further implement international plans of action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and to manage fishing capacity;

(b) Strengthen or develop, where necessary, national and regional sustainable and responsible fisheries management mechanisms consistent with the 1995 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries;

(c) Fully implement surveillance and monitoring systems;

(d) Analyse and assess the status of fish stocks;

(e) If they have not yet done so, consider becoming parties to the 1995 United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement and the FAO High Seas Fishing Compliance Agreement, as well as relevant regional agreements for the conservation and management of fisheries;

[(f) not authorizing vessels to fly their flag unless there is genuine link between the vessels and the country concerned; and — United States]/[maintain a genuine link between the vessels flying their flag in accordance with international requirements — Chair].

24. Distant water fishing nations are encouraged to provide small island developing States with technical and financial support to enhance the **[equitable]/[effective — Japan]/[fair — Republic of Korea]** and sustainable management of their fisheries resources.

25. In collaboration with other States and making use of regional mechanisms, small island developing States will work to put in place integrated policies and sound management approaches, such as marine protected areas, consistent with relevant international agreements, and develop national capacity to monitor, conserve and sustainably manage coral reefs and associated ecosystems, taking into account the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity adopted by the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its 7th meeting. Small island developing States should address as a priority the impacts of coastal development, coastal tourism, intensive and destructive fishing practices, pollution, as well as the unreported and illegal trade in corals, on the future health of coral reefs. To facilitate these initiatives, the international community should provide technical and financial support for:

(a) Regional monitoring efforts and Global Ocean Observing System;

(b) Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) marine science programmes that are of particular relevance to small island developing States;

(c) The strengthening, where appropriate, of representative networks of marine protected areas, consistent with decision VII/28 of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(d) Activities to address the impact of coral bleaching, including enhancing resistance and recovery. [agreed]

26. Small island developing States and relevant regional and international development partners should work together to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, drawing upon best practices from other regions, including the Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Policy, the designation of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, the Ocean Governance Project involving all regions, and the establishment of related initiatives in other small island developing States regions. [agreed]

V. Freshwater resources

27. Small island developing States continue to face water management and water access challenges, caused in part by deficiencies in water availability, water catchment and storage, pollution of water resources, saline intrusion **[exacerbated, inter alia, by sea-level rise and climate change — United States delete]**, and leakage in the delivery system. Sustained urban water supply and sanitation systems are constrained by a lack of human, institutional and financial resources. The access to safe drinking water, the provision of sanitation and the promotion of hygiene are the foundations of human dignity, public health and economic and social development and are among the priorities for small island developing States.

28. Small island developing States in the Caribbean and the Pacific regions have demonstrated their commitment to small island developing States-small island developing States cooperation with the Joint Programme for Action for Water and Climate. The international community is invited to support the implementation of this programme, and the proposal to broaden it to all small island developing States regions. [agreed]

29. Further action is required by small island developing States, with the necessary support from the international community, to meet the Millennium Development Goals and World Summit on Sustainable Development 2015 targets on sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation, hygiene, and the production of integrated water resources management and efficiency plans by 2005. [agreed]

30. The international community is requested to provide assistance to small island developing States for capacity-building for the development and further implementation of freshwater and sanitation programmes, and the promotion of integrated water resources management, including through the Global Environment Facility focal areas, where appropriate, the World Water Assessment Programme, and through support to the Global Programme of Action Coordination Office and the EU "Water for Life Initiative". [agreed]

31. The Fourth World Water Forum, to be held in Mexico City in March 2006, and its preparatory process will be an opportunity to continue to seek international support for the small island developing States agreed priority actions as submitted to the Third World Water Forum Portfolio of Water Action, namely: water resources management (using the HYCOS model); water demand management; water quality capacity-building; water governance; regional water partnerships; and inter-small island developing States water partnerships. [Japan may propose additional language]

VI. Land resources

32. The pressures on land resources that existed 10 years ago have only been exacerbated by competing uses, increased demands and land degradation. National strategies have to be elaborated on sustainable land use, which tackle such issues as land tenure and management systems, combating desertification and protecting biodiversity. These strategies should include environment[1] impact assessments and identify the necessary policy changes and capacity-building needs within the framework of the three pillars of sustainable development. [agreed]

33. Further action is required by small island developing States, with the necessary support of the international community, to:

(a) Develop capacity to implement the multilateral environmental agreements and other relevant international agreements in relation to land resources;

(b) Develop capacity for sustainable land management and self-generating agro-ecosystems by building on communal tenure systems and traditional land-use planning and practices for crop, livestock and aquaculture production, taking into account the increasing competition on land resources by tourism, urbanization and other activities;

(c) Strengthen land tenure and management systems, move from primary to tertiary agricultural production and diversify agricultural production in a sustainable manner. [agreed]

34. Given the recognition accorded by the Convention on Biological Diversity **[and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification — EU, Japan delete]** of the special needs of small island developing States, they are encouraged to present proposals to GEF to address land degradation **[as provided in programme 15 of GEF — G77]/[, taking into account that GEF is a financial mechanism for both conventions — Japan delete]**.

35. Faced with the challenge of competitiveness, small island developing States should seek additional opportunities for diversifying their economies and markets, especially in the agricultural sector, in order to increase their degree of food security and self-reliance. Small island developing States are committed individually and through small island developing States-small island developing States partnerships, with the necessary support of the international community, to:

(a) Create an enabling environment for sustainably enhancing agricultural productivity and promoting agricultural diversification and food security;

(b) Remove production constraints and build programmes in such areas as seed production and integrated pest management systems;

(c) Enhance food processing, marketing and product development and quality control;

(d) Promote relevant research and development and the use of appropriate modern technologies;

(e) Promote sustainable aquaculture. [agreed]

36. To elaborate concrete strategies to enhance efficient and sustainable agricultural production and ensure their food security through such initiatives as the FAO sustainable agriculture and rural development initiative, the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations are urged to provide practical support to small island developing States, for research into such matters as: the diversification of agriculture; alternative uses for crops; improved husbandry, irrigation and water management; aquaculture; and the use of appropriate modern technologies for smallholder agriculture, including agricultural extension services. [agreed]

37. The 2005 FAO conference of small island developing States ministers of agriculture is urged to consider endorsing priority actions for an enhanced contribution of agriculture, forestry and fisheries to small island developing States sustainable development policies, in the light of the importance of nutrition and food security needs to small island developing States. [agreed]

38. Sustainable forest management to reduce forest loss and forest degradation is crucial to small island developing States. Small island developing States are committed, with the necessary support of the international community and in the framework of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests proposals for action and subsequent action of the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Convention on Biological Diversity work programme on forest biodiversity and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to:

(a) Develop and strengthen partnerships for sustainable forest management, such as the Iwokrama rainforest programme;

(b) Increase stakeholder participation in all discussions regarding the development, management and conservation of forest and tree resources;

(c) Ensure adherence to national forest policies and legislation that has been developed to safeguard rights of resource ["owners"]/**[users — Canada]** through administrative and management mechanisms for alienation, licence or transfer of "traditional rights" for commercial development purposes;

(d) Increase the awareness, promotion, adoption and enforcement of legislation to ensure that sustainable rotational logging practices and replanting initiatives are implemented. [agreed except for subparagraph (c)]].

39. In the mining sector, we recognize that small island developing States are committed, with the support of the international community, to improve national capacity for:

(a) Policy and legislation formulation;

(b) The development of databases and assessment of mineral and aggregate resources;

(c) Negotiations with transnational corporations including measures to enhance transparency of revenue flows;

(d) The evaluation of mineral sector projects, including using environmental and social impact assessment to identify opportunities and risks and ensuring compliance with mitigatory and ameliorative measures where impacts are negative, as well as dealing with mining tenement issues and raising of land "owner" awareness and participation. [agreed]

40. [*Deleted*]

VII. Energy resources

41. Energy dependence is a major source of economic vulnerability for many small island developing States, and many remote and rural small island developing States communities have little or no access to modern and affordable energy services. Modern research has produced commercially feasible options of energy supply, such as wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, hydro and ocean energy. Indeed, many small island developing States are particularly suited to these options because of their geographical location. However, existing technologies may not always be adaptable to the needs and circumstances of many small island developing States communities. [agreed]

42. Small island developing States are committed, with the necessary support of the international community, to develop and implement integrated energy programmes. These programmes should include, inter alia, comprehensive assessments of small island developing States energy resources, current and projected patterns of energy use, enhancing energy efficiency, and promote the development and use of renewable energy as well as advanced clean energy technologies that are affordable and readily adaptable to the circumstances of small island developing States. Regional development banks have an important role in this process. Support for technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and for capacity-building are important. [agreed]

43. Small island developing States are committed, with the required support of the international community, to strengthen ongoing and support new efforts on energy supply and services, including the promotion of demonstration projects. It is recognized that a renewed effort is required by all, for small island developing States to achieve real and demonstrable progress in this regard, by the time of review by the Commission on Sustainable Development in 2006, in accordance with its work programme. [agreed]

44. Small island developing States and other international partners should work together to promote greater dissemination and application of small island developing States-appropriate energy technology and to strengthen existing mechanisms, such as the United Nations Renewable Energy Fund and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Energy Thematic Trust Fund, for this purpose. Small island developing States-small island developing States cooperation should be further pursued in areas where success has been achieved, such as a collaborative agency for financing small island developing States renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. [agreed]

VIII. Tourism resources

45. Tourism is an important contributor to economic growth in small island developing States. Yet it is recognized that the sector is open to many exogenous shocks. In addition, if tourism is not developed sustainably, it can damage or even destroy the natural environment that attracts tourism in the first place. There is also a continuing challenge to establish the appropriate balance between tourism development and that of other sectors of the economy. There is a particular challenge to make appropriate linkages to other sectors, including local service providers to retain resources within the country, in particular to create synergistic linkages between tourism and the agricultural sector by promoting island foods and beverages supply chains, rural hospitality and agro-tourism. [agreed]

46. Small island developing States, with the required support of regional and international tourism organizations and other relevant stakeholders, should monitor the impacts of tourism development to ensure that tourism development and social and environmental aspects are mutually supportive at all levels. They must also facilitate the design or refinement of guidelines and best practices appropriate for assessing the carrying capacity of small island developing States, including the provision of technical and financial support to conduct these assessments. To this end, they should develop and implement appropriate partnerships. Small island developing States should also implement the guidelines on biodiversity and tourism development adopted by the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its seventh meeting. [agreed]

47. Small island developing States, with the necessary support of regional and international tourism organizations, should also find effective ways and means to develop and implement sustainable tourism development plans, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders, in particular the private sector, and integrate these plans into their national strategies for sustainable development. In addition, they should develop and implement community-based initiatives on sustainable tourism, and build the necessary capacities of civil society and local stakeholders, while protecting culture and traditions and effectively conserving and managing natural resources. [agreed]

IX. Biodiversity resources

48. Many small island developing States have ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and have initiated national biodiversity strategic action plans and developed national nature reserves and protected areas. The World Summit on Sustainable Development confirmed the essential links between biodiversity and livelihoods. The achievements of the targets set by the international community in relevant international conventions, in particular those of the Convention on Biological Diversity agreed by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and endorsed by the Summit, are of particular importance to small island developing States. [agreed]

49. To achieve those targets in the agreed time frames, the following actions are required by small island developing States, with necessary support from the international community:

(a) Integrating biodiversity protection into national sustainable development strategies;

(b) Building effective partnerships between all relevant stakeholders essential to the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources;

(c) Addressing island biodiversity under the Convention on Biological Diversity in a manner that responds to the unique characteristics of small island developing States and to the threats related to climate change, land degradation and their particular vulnerabilities;

(d) Implementing the Convention's guidelines on biodiversity and tourism development;

(e) Enhancing national efforts, both by Governments and other stakeholders, in the implementation of the Convention's programme of work on protected areas, including the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law and based on scientific information; **[G77 to reflect on international law/ relevant international agreements]**

(f) Controlling major pathways for potential alien invasive species in small island developing States;

(g) Developing local capacities for protecting and developing the traditional knowledge of indigenous groups for the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources, taking into account the Bonn Guideline on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing as adopted at by the Conference of Parties to the Convention at its sixth meeting; **[Australia may return to issue of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources]**

(h) Developing the capacity to promote small island developing States-small island developing States cooperation for biodiversity resources, shared ecosystem management and exchange of experience, including through support for strong networks, by both Governments and other stakeholders;

(i) Participating in the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Group of the Convention on an international regime on access and benefit-sharing to elaborate and negotiate the nature, scope and elements of an international regime on access and benefit-sharing in accordance with the terms of decision VII/19 of the Conference of Parties to the Convention**[, including a focus on illegal access and acquisition — EU]/ [immoral appropriation — G77]**;

(j) Developing research facilities in biodiversity, including taxonomy, at the national and regional levels in small island developing States;

(k) Supporting, through the Convention and its Cartagena Protocol, the development and implementation of national biosafety frameworks;

(l) Supporting small island developing States efforts in building community capacity to conserve important species, sites and habitats.

50. [*Discussion moved to sect. XX on implementation*].

X. Transport and communication

51. Transport and communications remain important lifelines linking small island developing States with the outside world. While dramatic technological breakthroughs over the last decade, such as the development of the Internet and satellite communications, have mitigated the traditional isolation of small island developing States, transport and communication nevertheless remain important challenges in the promotion and implementation of sustainable development nationally and in their regions. [agreed]

52. [*To be dealt with in sect. XX on implementation*].

53. Small island developing States, with the support of the international community, should cooperate and develop viable regional transportation arrangements, including improved air, land and sea transport policies. [agreed]

54. While the liberalization of telecommunications in some small island developing States has presented both opportunities and challenges, in many small island developing States there are still serious access limitations to basic telecommunications. The small size of the markets has prevented the maximization of the full value of liberalization through economies of scale. [agreed]

55. Small island developing States are committed, with the necessary support of the international community to taking initiatives in such areas as access to and the use of information and communication technology (ICT), development of community multimedia centres, ICT literacy, skills development, local content and applications in building knowledge-based societies and bridging the digital divide, particularly in rural communities. There is also a continuing need for maintenance of low-tech communication solutions, such as high-frequency radio for rural and remote locations. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and other relevant organizations are invited to support these activities in a coordinated manner. In this regard, the World Summit on the Information Society is encouraged to consider small island developing States concerns and their participation in the Summit process. [agreed]

56. Taking into account the objective of their national policies, small island developing States are urged to consider further liberalizing their telecommunications sector as one of the possible means to address the high costs caused by existing monopoly service providers. In this regard, appropriate and adequate national communications regulatory frameworks will be required. [agreed]

XI. Science and technology

57. It is recognized that science and technology is a cross-cutting issue for all sectors for small island developing States sustainable development. Since 1994, some small island developing States have been able to strengthen the science and technology base of their economy, while others still require significant support. [agreed]

58. Targeted investments for small island developing States-appropriate science and technology capacity is critical, given the increasing importance of science and technology in building resilience in small island developing States. Further action is

required by small island developing States, with the necessary support of the international community, to:

(a) Incorporate into national sustainable development strategies appropriate science and technology elements and support for science development in small island developing States, and also provide promotion and protection of traditional knowledge and practices;

(b) Review science and technology activities in relation to environmentally sound technologies and sustainable development;

(c) Reduce environmental risk in the application of science and technology and in the utilization of indigenous technologies. [agreed]

59. [*Discussion moved to sect. XX on implementation*]

60. [*Discussion moved to sect. XX on implementation*]

61. The strengthening and further development of small island developing States-small island developing States cooperation and experience-sharing in this area is crucial and should be made a priority, especially in regard to utilizing the national and regional institutions of small island developing States. An important activity in this regard is the operationalization of the small island developing States roster of experts (SIDSTAP), and the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat should seek to complete the necessary work by 2004 in cooperation with regional organizations and national Governments. [agreed]

62. The Small Island Developing States Network (SIDSNet) is a critical mechanism in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States and needs maintenance, strengthening and further enhancement. The French-language portal is expected to be fully operational by 2005. A Spanish-language portal should be developed by 2005, and the Small Island Developing States Unit is requested to seek the necessary financial support. [agreed]

XII. Graduation from least developed country status

63 and 64 reformulated. **[Graduation of countries should be based on an agreed criteria that demonstrates that the country has made sustainable socio-economic progress. There is a need to ensure for small island developing States graduating from least developed country status a "smooth transition" strategy, taking into account their special vulnerabilities. — G77; United States, EU, Canada, delete]**

XIII. Trade: globalization and trade liberalization

[64 bis: add para. 26 of the Monterrey Consensus]

[65. Most small island developing States, as a result of their smallness, persistent structural disadvantages and vulnerabilities, face specific difficulties in integrating into the global economy. Special attention should be given to the specific trade- and development-related needs and concerns of small island developing States to enable them to fully integrate into the multilateral trading

system. Trade liberalization and globalization present opportunities and challenges to small island developing States], particularly in terms of the erosion of trade preferences — G77 add]. The potential benefits from trade liberalization and globalization can be best realized if the specific limitations and vulnerabilities of small island developing States are addressed by small island developing States and the international community. The ongoing World Trade Organization (WTO) work programme on small economies should be expedited, giving due attention to the concerns of small island developing States which have severe structural handicaps in beneficially integrating into the global economy.]

[66. We welcome the decision taken on 31 July 2004 by WTO members in which they emphasized their resolve to conclude the negotiations launched at Doha. We further welcomed the renewed commitment by WTO members to fulfilling the development dimension of the Doha development agenda, which places the needs and interest of developing and least developed countries including small economies at the heart of the Doha work programme. Ongoing efforts should be strengthened to enable the full and effective participation by small economies, notably small island developing States, in the deliberations and decision-making process of WTO. Many small island developing States are either not represented in Geneva or are still grappling with the accession process to WTO membership. Most small island developing States also experience serious capacity constraints in meeting WTO obligations. The international community is encouraged to continue its commitment to the Doha development agenda global trust fund, which provides valuable assistance to developing country members, particularly those without Geneva representation, to participate more actively in the Doha round of negotiations and WTO more generally. Regional representations to WTO should be supported to enhance the effective participation and negotiation capacity of small island developing States in WTO.]

67. In order to address small island developing States concerns, the following actions are required:

(a) [Simplification and acceleration of accession procedures for small island developing States in WTO;]/**[Use the guidelines adopted by WTO in December 2002 to facilitate and accelerate the accession of least developed countries, many of which are small island developing States. Enhanced trade-related technical assistance should also be provided to least developed countries and other small island developing States which are not currently members of WTO to facilitate their accession process to WTO; — EU alternative]**

(b) [Adoption of provisions within WTO to facilitate a "smooth transition" for small island developing States graduating from least developed country status to reduce the likelihood of economic dislocation; — **EU delete**]

(c) [Adoption by WTO and other relevant international organizations of an integrated framework of technical assistance and cooperation for trade development in small island developing States, including national capacity for more effective participation in trade negotiations;]/**[Enhance the delivery of coordinated, effective and targeted trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building programmes, including taking advantage of existing and future market access opportunities and examining the relationship between trade, environment and**

development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, para. 47 (e)). Trade-related assistance provided by multilateral agencies and bilateral donors should support small island developing States efforts in pursuing relevant trade and development policies and adjusting to a liberalized trade environment. In particular, this assistance should support the regional integration of developing countries and the development of trade flows between them. [WTO and other relevant international organizations are encouraged to use the modalities of the Integrated Framework of Trade-Related Technical Assistance for Least Developed Countries to coordinate assistance programmes, including capacity-building for more effective participation in trade negotiations, and build on the poverty reduction strategy papers, in order to streamline trade into the development plans of small developing countries, notably small island developing States; — EU alternative]

(d) [Provision within WTO for policy spaces to enable small island developing States to more effectively pursue their sustainable development goals;]/**[Work to ensure that, in the ongoing negotiations and elaboration of the WTO work programme on trade in small economies, due account is taken of small island developing States, which have severe structural handicaps in integrating into the global economy, within the context of the Doha development agenda (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, para. 58 (f)); — EU alternative]**

(e) [Expeditious completion by WTO of its work programme on small economies, which must recognize and address the problems and concerns of small island developing States; — **EU delete**]

(f) [Recognition of WTO for the maintenance of non-reciprocal preferences for small island developing States;]/**[Recognize the importance of enhanced and predictable access to all markets for the exports of developing countries, including small island developing States, landlocked and least developed countries, transit developing countries and countries in Africa, as well as countries with economies in transition (Monterrey Consensus, para. 33); — EU alternative]**

Add new text: **[Develop capacity to meet the various new international requirements in relation to standards, including sanitary and phytosanitary and technical standards (moved from para. 33 (a)) — EU]**

(g) [Provision by WTO for flexibility for small island developing States to enter into non-reciprocal preferential trading arrangements;]/**[Use of existing long-term financial mechanisms of multilateral financial institutions to facilitate the adjustment of small island developing States. Timely implementation of the trade integration mechanism adopted by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to address balance of payments shortfalls arising from trade liberalization; — EU alternative]**

(h) [Establishment by the main trading and development partners of small island developing States of appropriate compensatory mechanisms and adjustment measures to cushion losses from erosion of preferences; — **EU delete**]

(i) [Establishment by multilateral financial institutions of special long-term financial mechanisms to facilitate the adjustment of small island developing States to the post-Uruguay round trading environment, as well as further adversities that

they may encounter in the international trading environment, upon completion of the Doha round of trade negotiations; **EU, Japan — delete**]

(j) [Recognition by WTO to maintain subsidy measures by small island developing States in order to compensate for their inherent structural disadvantages in attracting investment; exemption by WTO of small island developing States from the rules on subsidies that require the phasing out of existing fiscal incentives; creation of appropriate incentives by trading partners to induce their investors to invest in the economies of small island developing States; — **EU delete**] **[Use of existing special and differential treatment provisions in WTO for developing countries, notably small island developing States, including in relation to subsidies; — EU alternative for subpara. (j)]**

(k) Assistance from **[UNCTAD and other — EU delete] relevant [institutions]/[organizations — EU alternative]** to small island developing States to enhance their capacity for trade policy analysis and trade negotiations, including through integrated assessments of the impacts of trade-related measures on key sectors such as agriculture and services, including tourism;

(l) There is a need for greater attention to be given to the environmental dimensions of trade. There should be continued examination of the **[relationship between — EU add] trade [implications of the — EU delete] [in — EU] multilateral environmental agreements [and WTO agreements — EU add]. — United States delete whole section]**

[*Note*: *para. 67 pending, to be considered in conjunction with sect. XX on implementation.*]

XIV. Sustainable capacity development and education for sustainable development

68. Small island developing States continue to require support to address the serious challenges they face in capacity development in policy and strategy formulation and implementation. Small island developing States are now seeking to address these challenges in capacity through a more integrated approach that includes civil society and the private sector, noting that within the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) region a charter has been established for the participation of all major groups. [agreed]

69. [*Discussion moved to sect. XX on implementation*]

70. While access to education in small island developing States has developed considerably over the last decade, it is still a fundamental component of sustainable development and capacity-building for the long term. The right to education is also a human right. In this regard, education strategies and action plans that encompass the wide-ranging needs for improved access to and quality of education need to be implemented. [agreed]

70 bis. [*formerly part of para. 70*] Further action is required by small island developing States, with the necessary support of the international community, to further education for sustainable development through:

(a) Supporting efforts of the respective ministries of education;

(b) Promoting comprehensive and accessible universal primary education and ensuring gender equality in all small island developing States, with a major emphasis to reduce illiteracy;

(c) Promoting technical and vocational education, to enhance skills and facilitate entrepreneurship necessary in the pursuit of sustainable livelihoods;

(d) Strengthening distance-learning arrangements;

(e) Integrating national sustainable development strategies and environmental education within the education systems, with particular support from UNESCO and regional environmental organizations and in the framework of the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, 2005-2015;

(f) Assisting with basic infrastructure, curriculum development, where appropriate, and teacher training, working towards an integrated gender perspective;

(g) Assisting with further development of programmes for people with special needs in particular children and youth, especially training at a regional level;

(h) Further strengthening the training and teaching of the principles and practices of good governance at all levels and protection of human rights. [agreed]

XV. Sustainable production and consumption

71. In response to the call in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation for the development of a 10-year framework of progress in support of regional and national initiatives on sustainable consumption and production, small island developing States are committed, with the necessary support of the international community, to:

(a) Consider all initiatives relating to sustainable consumption and production in the context of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development;

(b) Take appropriate measures to facilitate implementation of the 10-year framework on sustainable production and consumption in a col erent manner;

(c) Assess the need for programmes on sustainable consumption and production strategies on the basis of national priorities and best practices;

(d) [*Discussion moved to sect. XX on implementation*] [agreed]

XVI. National and regional enabling environments

72. Further action is required by small island developing States, with the necessary support of the international community, to:

(a) Formulate and implement national sustainable development strategies by 2005, as agreed to in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

(b) Incorporate guiding principles of sustainable development into nationally owned poverty reduction strategies and all sectoral policies and strategies;

(c) Develop appropriate national targets and indicators for sustainable development, that can be incorporated into existing national data collection and

reporting systems, in order to, inter alia, respond to the requirements of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and other relevant global and regional targets;

(d) Improve legislative, administrative and institutional structures to develop and implement sustainable development strategies, policies and plans and mainstream sustainable development concerns into overall policy development and implementation and facilitate the participation of civil society in all sustainable development initiatives;

(e) Create and empower sustainable development task forces, or their equivalent, to function as interdisciplinary and communally representative advisory bodies;

(f) Rationalize legislation that affects sustainable development at the national level, where appropriate, improve coordination between legislative frameworks, and develop guidelines for those who must carry out legislative objectives;

(g) Develop and implement integrated planning systems and processes;

(h) Involve youth in visioning sustainable island living. **[reflect on necessity of the concept and placement in regards to sect. XX on implementation.]** [agreed]

XVII. Health

73. Health is a key determinant of sustainable development as identified through the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration. The strengthening and further development of small island developing States-small island developing States cooperation and experience-sharing in the area of health is crucial and should be made a priority. Increasing incidence of such health challenges as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, drug resistant malarial strains, dengue, severe acute respiratory syndrome, West Nile Virus, bird flu and other new and emerging diseases, and nutritional disorders, diabetes and other non-communicable diseases and their impact on sustainable development is a major concern in small island developing States. [agreed]

73 bis. Small island developing States are committed, with the necessary support of the international community, to also address HIV/AIDS which is prevalent in many countries. In addition to its impact on individuals and families, HIV/AIDS is particularly devastating for countries with small populations and limited skilled workforces, taking a severe toll on their economies as productivity declines, income levels are reduced and the social fabric is undermined. Responding effectively to HIV/AIDS is both an urgent health issue and a development imperative. [agreed]

74. Other communicable and non-communicable diseases will continue to have a significant impact on the health of small island developing States communities for the foreseeable future. Further, the experience of many regions has shown that failure to effectively control such diseases as HIV/AIDS will have substantial negative impacts on future sustainable development in all small island developing States. [agreed]

74 bis. [*fourth part of para. 74*] Further action is required by small island developing States, with the necessary support of the international community, to effectively control these diseases through:

(a) Strengthening the health management and financing systems of small island developing States to enable them to arrest the HIV/AIDS epidemic, to reduce the incidence of malaria, dengue, non-communicable diseases and mental health;

(a) bis Technical assistance bilaterally or through multilateral cooperation agencies to facilitate prompt access to funds from the Global Fund to Combat HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, which is a major instrument to combat these infectious diseases, thereby supporting the sustainable development of small island developing States;

(b) Enhanced accessibility to effective pharmaceutical drugs at affordable prices;

(c) The active implementation of healthy public policy and effective prevention programmes in such areas as immunization, reproductive health, mental health and health education;

(d) The development and implementation of effective surveillance initiatives at the local, national and regional levels;

(e) The facilitation of early information-sharing on possible emerging outbreaks nationally and internationally;

(f) Preparedness of countries and regional organizations to respond rapidly and effectively to outbreaks, naturally occurring and intentional, requiring development and regular testing of response plans, strengthening of response capacity and identification of resources which can be accessed quickly;

(g) The development and implementation of modern, flexible national public health legislation;

(h) To promote the development of traditional medicines, including medicinal plants.

(i) The implementation of targeted environmental health programmes which prevent ill health of small island developing States populations, such as waste management, control of air pollution and improved water quality;

(j) Enhanced data collection on demographic and epidemiological trends. [agreed]

XVIII. Knowledge management and information for decision-making

75. Small island developing States recognize that there are new opportunities afforded by the rapid new developments in ICT to overcome limitations of isolation and remoteness and build their resilience. These new opportunities include such areas as e-commerce, improved early warning, tele-medicine and distance-learning. [agreed]

75 bis. [*formerly part of para. 75*] Further action is required by small island developing States, with the necessary support of the international community, for:

(a) The identification and addressing of gaps in data and characterization of information related to economic, social, environmental and cultural areas;

(b) Developing databases, vulnerability indexes, geographic information systems (GIS) and other information systems;

(c) Establishing national and regional information and database centres, including the collection, quality control and use of metadata, analysis of data, accessibility and sharing of data and information;

(d) The expansion and extension of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the Twenty-first Century (Paris 21) initiative to address small island developing States concerns;

(e) [*Discussion moved to sect. XX on implementation*];

(f) Addressing issues relating to cyber-security in small island developing States;

(g) Establishing land use databases, inter alia, through training in and access to the use of GIS and remote-sensing;

(h) Strengthening and establishing, where necessary, relevant research and postgraduate programmes at small island developing States regional tertiary level institutions. [agreed]

76. Consideration should be given for the establishment of a task force to elaborate a resilience index, supported by the international community. This work would be significantly enhanced as a result of the successful implementation of the activities outlined above. [agreed]

XIX. Culture

77. Small island developing States recognize the importance of the cultural identity of people and its importance in advancing sustainable development, and also recognize the need to develop cultural industries and initiatives, which present significant economic opportunities for national and regional development. Cultural industries and initiatives are viewed as an area in which small island developing States have comparative advantage which have the potential to diversify small island developing States economies and build their resilience while they adjust to changes in the global economy. Small island developing States are committed, with the necessary support of the international community, to:

(a) Develop and implement national cultural policies and legislative frameworks to support the development of cultural industries and initiatives in such areas as music, art, the literary and culinary arts, fashion, festivals, theatre and film, sports and cultural tourism;

(b) Develop measures to protect the natural, tangible and intangible cultural heritage and increase resources for the development and strengthening of national and regional cultural initiatives;

(c) Improve institutional capacity for advocacy and marketing of cultural products and the protection of intellectual property;

(d) Seek venture capital and access to credit to small and medium-sized cultural enterprises and initiatives, including through the establishment of culture support funds in small island developing States regions. [agreed]

XX. Implementation

[*Note: G77 indicated that the ideas contained in the following paragraphs would be taken up in sect. XX on implementation: 50 — GEF; 59 — technology clearing house; 69 — capacity-building; 71 (d) — sustainable production and consumption; 75 bis (e) — digital solidarity.*]

78. Small island developing States and the international community recognize that the further implementation of the Programme of Action, Agenda 21, and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, are mutually reinforcing. This will require a more focused and substantially increased effort, both by small island developing States themselves and by the rest of the international community, based on the recognition that each country has primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized[**, taking fully into account the Rio principles, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as set out in the principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. — United States delete**]

[79. To assist small island developing States in this regard will require:

(a) Substantially increasing the flow and effective use of [financial]/[all relevant — United States] resources[, both public and private];

(b) Improved trade opportunities;

(c) Access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies on a concessional or preferential basis, as mutually agreed;

(d) Education and awareness-raising;

(e) Capacity-building and information for decision-making and scientific capabilities;

(f) National country-driven and country-owned plans for poverty reduction and sustainable development — EU add, G77 delete].

80. Small island developing States reaffirm their commitment to meet the sustainable development goals and priorities in the Programme of Action by, inter alia, more effective utilization of available resources and reinforcing their national sustainable development strategies and mechanisms. The success of the present Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action by small island developing States at the national level will depend on effective human, institutional and technical capacity development, effective monitoring and coordination, including through the support of small island developing States regional organizations. At the global level, it is essential that the international community

supports these goals and assists in the implementation of actions to achieve them, particularly through the provision of financial and technical support. [agreed]

A. Access to and the provision of financial resources

81. The international community reaffirms its commitment to support the sustainable development of small island developing States through the provision of financial resources, inter alia **[enhanced — EU delete]** access to existing funds and financial mechanisms, such as the relevant operational programmes of GEF, and underlines the crucial involvement of the donor community, including the international financial institutions and regional development banks.

82. This commitment entails a more coherent, coordinated and collaborative approach to the sustainable development of small island developing States, through, inter alia:

- Strengthened country-driven donor coordination for small island developing States as regional groups or through national consultative processes, using existing frameworks, where relevant.
- Active support for regional and interregional cooperation among small island developing States, such as the small island developing States University Consortium, the Caribbean-Pacific Water Initiative and the Interregional Ocean Governance Initiative.
- Broad-based partnerships that ensure involvement and participation of all relevant stakeholders.
- Actions to support the involvement of the private sector.
- Appropriate harnessing of the potential for foreign direct investment and encouraging increased FDI flows to small island developing States.
- **[Developed countries that have not done so are urged to make concrete efforts towards the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product (GNP) as ODA [and developing countries, including small island developing States, are encouraged to build on progress achieved to use ODA effectively to help achieve internationally agreed development goals — G77 delete]. — Chair alternative].**
- **[This aid should be well targeted and well coordinated, including through harmonization of donor procedures, untying aid, increasing absorptive capacity, and other such measures, which are particularly important when providing ODA to countries with limited capacity like small island developing States — Chair alternative] [these may be included in a separate paragraph on ODA].**
- **[GEF is encouraged to take into account the special circumstances of small island developing States in the application of rules of access — G77] EU, United States delete]/[GEF is invited to consider ways of improving the access, effectiveness and efficiency of its disbursement procedures. The international community should facilitate the access by small island developing States to GEF. — Canada].**

83. **[The international community will continue to — EU delete]** facilitate small island developing States access to **[existing — EU delete]** funding **[and decides to urgently put in place new and additional dedicated financial resources for investment — Japan requires clarification]** [in]/[for — EU] resilience-building in the following key areas [EU, Canada and United States to propose reformulation]]/**[To address the most urgent challenges for small island developing States sustainable development, further actions are required by small island developing States, with the necessary support of the international community, in the following key areas — Chair]**:

- **Energy**: to address the energy vulnerability of small island developing States, to promote access to energy efficient technologies, renewable energy and advanced clean energy technologies that are affordable and readily adaptable to the special circumstances of small island developing States.

- **[Climate change adaptation**: to develop and implement national adaptation strategies and facilitate regional and interregional cooperation, including through **[collaboration with]/[contributions to [inter alia — G77 — EU accepts] [expedited access to — G77 add]** the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund within the framework of the — EU — G77 accepts] United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change] [Canada, United States proposals to come].

- **Intellectual property rights and development**: assist small island developing States in protecting intellectual property, including traditional knowledge and folklore, **[and facilitating access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing — United States delete]** and recognizing their value [G77 move access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing to biodiversity bullet].

- **Culture and development**: to assist small island developing States in promoting development of cultural industries, including through cultural exchanges among small island developing States and other countries.

- **Insurance**: [to facilitate access to adequate and affordable collective insurance for small island developing States, in particular to address natural and environmental disasters]/[to consider the specific concerns of small island developing States, including the difficulties in making appropriate insurance arrangements to address natural and environmental disasters — EU].

- **Marine resources**: [to support small island developing States national and regional efforts in the sustainable management of their marine resources; through appropriate assessment, management, monitoring and surveillance of fish stocks, including appropriate enforcement measures to minimize illegal unregulated or unreported fishing, overharvesting, mapping of their exclusive economic zones, and in improving and strengthening existing regional mechanisms, where appropriate — G77 alternative] [agreement is close].

- **Agriculture and rural development**: [to assist small island developing States in promoting the long-term development of efficient agricultural industries, including the scope and potential for diversification and value-added activities, taking account of global reform of agricultural trade — Australia]/[to promote agricultural competitiveness, research and development, diversification and food security — G77, EU].

- **HIV/AIDS**: to urgently intensify action at all levels to prevent and combat the spread of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria and other communicable and non-communicable diseases, and mitigate the impact of these diseases.

- **Transport and security**: to promote access to appropriate technology and increased technical and other assistance to support small island developing States to further develop and manage transport infrastructure to meet international requirements, including those relating to security, as well as to minimize environmental impacts.

B. Science and development and transfer of technology

84. **[The international community commits itself to facilitate small island developing States access to appropriate technology by establishing a small island developing States dedicated technology transfer and development facility, within the United Nations system, to]/[small island developing States and relevant regional and international development partners should work together to — EU, United States]:**

(a) Focus on the dissemination and use of technology that helps resilience-building in order to address the **[growing — United States delete]** vulnerability (economic, environmental, social) of small island developing States;

(b) Disseminate information on resilience-building technologies deployed in small island developing States, as well as providing technical assistance to small island developing States;

(c) Assist small island developing States in making critical technological choices, providing information on previous experience with the technology in small island developing States, in partnership with SIDSNet as the mechanism for dissemination, and the tertiary institutions in small island developing States;

(d) **[[Access]/[promote access to — United States] technological systems licenses], with due respect for the rights of license holders, — United States add]** for the management of waste as a resource, energy efficiency, renewable energy development, through mechanisms such as regional development banks] [place after (a) — G77];

(e) Provide technical assistance to small island developing States to help them develop institutional arrangements conducive to the registration of intellectual patents and identification of potential partners for full-scale commercialization;

(f) Promote intersectoral synergies;

(g) Continue to strengthen science and technological collaboration through North-South and South-South Cooperation;

(h) Facilitate research into new products, maximizing the use of existing small island developing States resources;

(i) Encourage development of appropriate programmes in support of national and regional efforts to build the science and technological capacities of small island developing States.

C. Capacity development

85. [The international community **[commits itself to]/[will — Japan]** support the]/] small island developing States with the necessary support of the international community will enhance their — EU] human and institutional capacity development in small island developing States through:

(a) Cooperation with other capacity development initiatives and existing programmes, such as the UNDP capacity 2015 programme, to provide resources for education reform, including making the education systems relevant for small island developing States;

(b) Investing in appropriate training focusing on water and waste management, energy, climate change adaptation and mitigation, intellectual property rights, development of cultural industries, tourism, disaster management, health care, trade facilitation and niche marketing, insurance, investment, agriculture, mining, forestry and fisheries and natural resources product development, and would involve small island developing States NGOs and community groups;

(c) Supporting the small island developing States Universities Consortium, small island developing States regional organizations and NGO networks in order to improve the use of small island developing States intellectual resources and to provide the cadre of expertise that is needed in small island developing States at the national and regional levels, in particular in the areas of climate change, energy, integrated island management, trade and sustainable development, sustainable tourism development, international law, intellectual property rights, and negotiating skills.

D. National and international governance

1. National enabling environment

[86. Small island developing States reaffirm their commitments to establishing a national enabling environment for sustainable development through the adoption of national sustainable development strategies in an integrated and holistic manner, and incorporating the guiding principles of sustainable development into nationally owned poverty reduction strategies and all sectoral policies and strategies; setting targets that are in line with international agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration. This will be achieved through improved legislative, administrative and institutional structures, policies and plans and facilitate the participation of civil society. — G77]

[87. Good governance is essential for sustainable development. Sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions, responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructures are the bases for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation. Freedom, peace and security, domestic stability, respect for human rights, including the right to development and the rule of law, gender equality, market orientated policies, and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies are also essential and mutually reinforcing.]

[88. Small island developing States commit themselves to continue the following:

- Resources at the national level should continue to be raised to meet the sustainable development goals and priorities articulated in the light of the Programme of Action (para. 74).
- Develop national sustainable development strategies, including through their poverty reduction strategy papers and other poverty-reduction strategies.
- Develop and strengthen their legislative, administrative and institutional structures.
- Increase the awareness and involvement of all stakeholders in policy-making and implementation of sustainable development programmes at all levels.
- Promote private-sector investments in small island developing States, both domestic and foreign, as a key driver of increased growth, employment and poverty reduction and improving the investment climate through appropriate policy reforms that provide incentives and opportunities to the private sector to invest productively. — EU]

89. [Small island developing States also commit themselves to creating an enabling environment for the private sector, including for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, which play a crucial role in growth and development. This enabling environment should include:

(a) A sound macroeconomic framework, aimed at sustaining high rates of economic growth, price stability and sustainable fiscal balances;

(b) Effective, efficient, transparent and accountable systems for mobilizing and managing public resources;

(c) A clear delineation of property rights, including transparent rules for titling property;

(d) Competitive markets that spur innovation, increase productivity and support consumer welfare by providing choices at competitive prices;

(e) An attractive investment climate characterized by enforceable contracts, a well-functioning labour market, and the absence of corruption;

(f) Well designed regulatory policies that not only protect the public interest but also minimize the time and effort required to establish or liquidate a business, register property, enforce contracts, or mobilize capital and credit in support of business operations;

(g) More efficient and cost-effective transport and communications networks, regular reviews of the quality of service provided by public sector monopoly operators, and a framework for private-sector investment and development in these networks. — United States]

2. International enabling environment

90. [The international community will ensure that — EU delete] [The governing bodies of — EU add, United States delete] international institutions, including financial institutions [should — EU add] pay appropriate attention to the needs and priorities of [individual — EU add, United States and G77 delete] small island developing States. In this regard, the international community recognizes the diversity of circumstances that exist within developing countries and the need to

avoid a one-size-fits-all approach. International organizations should operate on an integrated cross-sector-based approach in order to ensure the optimum utilization of resources across sectors.

[91. WTO members reaffirmed in July 2004 their resolve to conclude the negotiations launched at Doha. They also renewed their commitment to fulfilling the development dimension of the Doha development agenda, which places the needs and interests of developing countries at the heart of the Doha work programme. Enhanced market access, balanced rules, and well targeted, sustainably financed technical assistance and capacity-building programmes can play an important role in the economic development of small island developing States. WTO members have also recognized that attention be given to the fuller integration of small, vulnerable economies into the multilateral trading system, without creating a subcategory of WTO members.] [bracketed pending resolution of paras. 65 and 66]

92. In order to address small island developing States concerns, the following actions are of key importance:

(a) Successful completion of the WTO negotiations launched at Doha by end-2005 on the basis of a balanced overall outcome that meets the ambition of the Doha mandate, including the fullest possible liberalization of trade, including products of particular importance to developing countries, including small island developing States; — G77 delete]/[successful completion of the WTO negotiations launched at Doha based on a broad agenda, including ambitious trade opening, strengthened trade rules and a specific focus on the needs and interests of developing countries, including small island developing States; — EU alternative];

(b) Facilitation and acceleration of the accession of [least developed country — EU add] small island developing States, where appropriate, [in line]/[accordance] with the guidelines on [least developed country — G77 delete] accession adopted by the WTO in December 2002;

(c) Enhance the delivery of coordinated, effective and targeted trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building programmes for small island developing States, including taking advantage of existing and future market access opportunities[, and examining the relationship between trade, environment and development — United States delete]. [There is a need for greater attention to be given to the environmental dimensions of trade. — EU add];

(d) Extension of [existing — EU, United States delete] trade preferences for small island developing States, as well as [compensatory mechanisms to offset]/[addressing the — EU, United States] impacts of trade preferences erosion [with the understanding that such preferences shall not impede or interfere with most-favoured nation liberalization — United States add]/[Existing trade preferences for small island developing States should be taken into consideration in the course of trade negotiations, especially in the agriculture sector. — Canada alternative]/[The particular concerns of small island developing States relating to [the erosion of — G77 add, United States delete] preferences should be taken into consideration[, as appropriate,]/[and appropriately addressed — G77 add] in the course of WTO negotiations. — EU, United States];

(e) [Use of existing long-term financial mechanisms to facilitate the adjustment of small island developing States to post-Doha trade liberalization and timely implementation of the trade integration mechanism adopted by IMF to

address balance of payments shortfalls arising from multilateral trade liberalization. — G77 delete];

(f) [Work to ensure the smooth transition of States graduating from least developed country status, including relevant small island developing States — United States, EU, pending resolution of Economic and Social Council decision and hence to earlier paragraph on least developed country graduation];

(g) Taking into account the specific circumstances of each small island developing State when assessing the perspective of long-term debt sustainability;

(h) [Implementation of programmes (such as the G8 Action Plan on Entrepreneurship) to facilitate remittances, encourage foreign investment and support the development of well regulated financial systems within small island developing States. — G77 to consider further];

(i) Developing capacity within small island developing States to meet WTO requirements [including sanitary and phytosanitary measures, technical barriers to trade and other standards and regulations — United States delete], and to comply with multilateral environmental agreements.

93. Furthermore, the international community requests the United Nations Secretary-General to enhance the [United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) — EU delete] work programme on the special problems of small island developing States to provide concrete recommendations to assist small island developing States access and derive greater economic opportunities and benefits from the global economy [including the development of an integrated framework for trade-related technical assistance for small island developing States]/[. WTO and other relevant international organizations are encouraged to use the modalities of the integrated framework of trade-related technical assistance for least developed countries to coordinate assistance programmes, including capacity-building for more effective participation in trade negotiations, and build on the poverty reduction strategy papers in order to streamline trade into development plans of small island developing States. — EU]

3. Monitoring and evaluation

94. Small island developing States recognize the importance of regular monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Programme of Action, including the new and emerging issues, at the national, regional and international levels[, within the overall framework of the integrated and coordinated follow-up of United Nations summits and conferences. — EU add]

E. Role for the United Nations in the further implementation of the Programme of Action

95. **The Commission on Sustainable Development will continue to be the primary intergovernmental body for the implementation and follow-up to the commitments related to small island developing States. Other relevant organs, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system also continue to have an important role within their respective areas of expertise and mandates. All organs and programmes of the United Nations system should coordinate and rationalize their work in implementing the present Strategy for the Further**

Implementation of the Programme of Action. In this regard, the Commission will include these issues in its work programme in accordance with its decision at its eleventh session.

96. **[The Department of Economic and Social Affairs, through its Small Island Developing States Unit, will continue to provide substantive support to small island developing States for the further implementation of the Programme of Action and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, monitoring implementation and reviewing progress achieved; providing technical and advisory services, and disseminating small island developing States-specific information, in particular through a strengthened SIDSNet, and ensuring a coordinated approach for the further implementation of the Programme of Action and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation for small island developing States by ongoing consultation with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, through an inter-agency task force. In this regard, the Secretary-General is requested to establish a standing Inter-Agency Task Force on Small Island Developing States.]** [*Note*: this draft paragraph on the role of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, through its Small Island Developing States Unit, is provided by the Secretariat for consideration by delegations.]

[97. The Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and the Small Island Developing States will support, as appropriate, the coordinated follow-up of the Programme of Action and assist in mobilizing international support and resources for its implementation. The Office will also undertake advocacy work in favour of small island developing States, in partnership with the relevant parts of the United Nations as well as with civil society, media, academia and foundations.] [*Note*: this draft paragraph on the role of the Office of the United Nations High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and the Small Island Developing States, is provided by the Secretariat for consideration by delegations.]

98. Continued support from the United Nations system is necessary for the more meaningful implementation of the Programme of Action. **[Continued support from United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as well as the relevant regional commissions, is required for the further implementation of the Programme of Action as well as for follow-up in implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the internationally agreed development goals, including through the provision of technical cooperation and advisory services. The international community recognizes that small island developing States should have the flexibility to meet international reporting requirements through simplified procedures for joint reporting on the Programme of Action, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation the Millennium Development Goals and other related international agreements.]** [*Note*: this additional draft text is proposed by the Secretariat for consideration by delegations.]

99. The international community recognizes that small island developing States should have the flexibility to report jointly on implementation through simplified procedures for the Programme of Action, internationally agreed development goals,

including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and other international reporting requirements.

F. Role of small island developing States regional institutions for monitoring and implementation

100. **Small island developing States regional institutions should play a key role in monitoring the implementation of the Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action. [agreed]**